



U.S. Department of State U.S. Embassy in Cairo

Middle East Partnership Initiative Student Leaders

Description

The US Embassy in Cairo and the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) is pleased to announce the MEPI Student Leaders Program. This program will aim at cultivating participatory and pluralistic societies by developing the leadership capacity of young democratic reformers. The 2014 MEPI Student Leaders Program is scheduled to take place for six weeks from **June 25 - August 7, 2014**. Travel arrangements to and from the United States will be handled by one of the implementing universities. Each Student Leader candidate will be assigned to one of six selected host institutions, making every effort to ensure geographic diversity in the placement process. The project is open to students between the ages of 18 and 24 with fluency in English. Applicants also should have some interest in pursuing leadership opportunities in their home countries and demonstrate a desire to deepen their civic engagement. Participants will be expected to take advantage of opportunities to inform and educate a variety of American audiences about the cultures and societies of their home countries/communities in non-structured gatherings and public presentations. Students are expected to travel to the U.S. unaccompanied. An alumni development conference for applicants who successfully complete their summer program will be held the Middle East/North Africa region approximately eight months after the conclusion of the program (early 2015).

Completed applications must include:

- 1) Candidate's complete contact information including mailing address, email and phone number.
- 2) An updated CV including: name of the candidate's college/university, candidate's field of study, highlighting civic engagement, leadership and/or work experience, extracurricular activities, and academic honors
- 3) A copy of the candidate's passport
- 4) Evidence of high academic achievement (copy of the official transcript)
- 5) Details of any previous travel or study outside home country (including dates)
- 6) An essay of no more than 500 words, written in English, which answers the following questions:
 - Write about a problem currently affecting your community. If it were within your abilities, how would you work to solve this problem?
 - What are the qualities of an effective leader? Name one leader living today whom you admire and explain why.

Applicants may also include up to two letters of recommendation, but these are optional. Please note that only applicants fulfilling the program's requirements will be considered for an interview.

To download the MEPI application and to check application requirements, please visit:

<http://cairo.usembassy.gov/pa/xchgs.htm>

Please submit your applications and supporting documentation by email to: CairoMEPI@state.gov with the subject line: **2014 MEPI Student Leaders**

Deadline for Applications: February 11, 2014 at 4:30 PM

Kindly note that only shorted-listed applicants will be contacted for an interview on February 23-24, 2014